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Message Text

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22
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 /070 W
---------- 036929
R 181152Z NOV 76
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6575
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 5259

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CB, SN
SUBJ: SINGAPORE RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA

1. I ESCORTED VISITING BROOKINGS SCHOLAR A. DOAK BARNETT
TO MEETING WITH GOS FOREIGN MINISTER RAJARATNAM NOVEMBER 18,
AND AMONG OTHER SUBJECTS DISCUSSED RAJARATNAM REFERRED TO CURRENT
STATE OF SINGAPORE RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA ALONG FOLLOWING
LINES:

2. GOS HAS HEARD NOTHING FROM CAMBODIANS ON ESTABLISHMENT
OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, WHICH HAVE BEEN IN STATE OF SUSPENSION
SINCE APRIL 1975. RAJARATNAM EXPRESSED VIEW THAT BECAUSE OF
PREOCCUPATION WITH INTERNAL MATTERS CAMBODIANS SIMPLY DO NOT
WISH TO BE BOTHERED BY NEED TO CARRY ON DIPLOMATIC INTERCHANGES
WITH TOO MANY COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, RAJARATNAM SAID THAT "THEY
HAVE APPROACHED US" (HE DID NOT SAY WHERE BUT VENUE COULD HAVE
BEEN NEW YORK) ON SUBJECT OF ESTABLISHING TRADE RELATIONS,
POSSIBLY TO INCLUDE OPENING OF CAMBODIAN TRADE MISSION IN
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SINGAPORE. HE REMARKED THAT CAMBODIA WOULD NEED TO REESTABLISH

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MARKETS FOR TRADITIONAL EXPORT PRODUCTS SUCH AS RICE AND FISH, AND THAT SINGAPORE WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE SUCH PRODUCTS. SINGAPORE COULD ALSO FURNISH GOODS CAMBODIA NEEDED FOR ITS OWN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

3. ACCORDING TO RAJARATNAM, SINGAPORE WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT A CAMBODIAN TRADE MISSION. HE WAS UNCERTAIN, HOWEVER, HOW SOON ANY ACTION TO THIS END MIGHT BE TAKEN ON THE GROUNDS THAT CAMBODIAN LEADERS CAPABLE OF MAKING DECISIONS OF THIS NATURE APPEAR TO BE VERY FEW IN NUMBER. HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SINGAP05259
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760431-0556
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761134/aaaabdkp.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <26 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SINGAPORE RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA
TAGS: PFOR, CB, SN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006